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Information Security Threats and Policies in Europe

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secure Europe's information infrastructure, promote security standards, and educate the general public about security issues.

ENISA organized the first pan-European Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP) exercise, which took place in November 2010. This exercise tested the efficiency of procedures and communication links between member states in case an incident were to occur that would affect the normal operation of the Internet. ENISA acts as a facilitator and information broker for the Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERT), working with the public and private sectors of most EU member states.

The European Commission has recently launched the Digital Agenda for Europe. The goal of this initiative is to define the key role that information and communication technologies will play in 2020. The initiative calls for a single, open European digital market. Another goal is that broadband speeds of 30Mbps be available to all European citizens by 2020. In terms of security, the initiative is considering the implementation of measures to protect privacy and the establishment of a well-functioning network of CERT to prevent cybercrime and respond effectively to cyber attacks.

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CASE STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What is a botnet?
2. Describe some of the main points of the Digital Agenda for Europe.
3. Explain how a cyber attack can be carried out.
4. Describe some of the weaknesses exploited by malware.

Case contributed by Daniel Ortiz-Arroyo, Aalborg University